

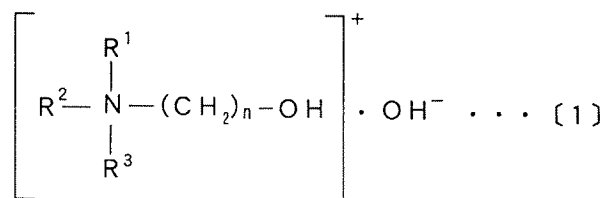
## LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please amend claim 5 and add new claims 15 and 16 as follows.

1. – 4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing corrosion of metal in an operating steam generating unit, comprising:

preparing a quaternary ammonium compound described by general formula [1] below:



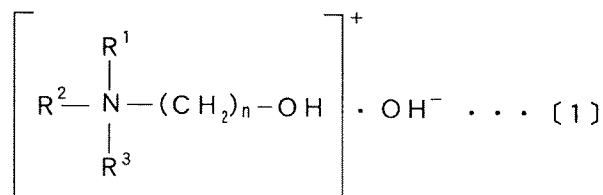
wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are the same or different hydrocarbon radicals with 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and n is an integer between 1 and 10, and

adding the quaternary ammonium compound in the range of 0.4 - 4 mg/L to feed water which contacts the inside of the operating steam generating unit such that a pH value of the feed water is controlled to 8.5 - 9.5, thereby preventing corrosion of the metal and formation of hydrogen chloride.

6. - 7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) A method for preventing corrosion of metal in an atmospheric distillation column for petroleum refining process, comprising:

preparing a quaternary ammonium compound described by general formula [1] below:



in which R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are the same or different hydrocarbon radicals with 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and n is an integer between 1 and 10, and

adding only the quaternary ammonium compound to fluid containing water which contacts the inside of the atmospheric distillation column for petroleum refining process such that a pH value thereof at the top line of the atmospheric distillation column is 5.5-6.5, thereby preventing corrosion of the metal and formation of hydrogen chloride.

9. – 10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) A method for inhibiting formation of hydrogen chloride in a crude oil atmospheric distillation unit, comprising:

preparing (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide; and

adding only the (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide to the desalted crude oil in between a crude oil desalter and a main distillation column in the crude oil atmospheric distillation unit, , thereby preventing corrosion of the metal and formation of hydrogen chloride.

12. (Original) The method for inhibiting formation of hydrogen chloride in a crude oil atmospheric distillation unit according to Claim 11, wherein the ( $\beta$ -hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide content is controlled to 0.1 - 5 times by molar equivalent the salts content in the desalted crude oil.

13. (Original) The method for inhibiting formation of hydrogen chloride in a crude oil atmospheric distillation unit according to Claim 11, wherein the chloride ion concentration or pH of the condensed water in the main distillation unit is measured, and the ( $\beta$ -hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide content is controlled based on the measurement results.

14. (Original) The method for inhibiting formation of hydrogen chloride in a crude oil atmospheric distillation unit according to Claim 11, wherein the ( $\beta$ -hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide content is controlled such that the chloride ion concentration (sodium chloride conversion) of the overhead receiver water is 0-30 mg/L or the pH of the overhead receiver water is 5.5 - 7.0.

15. (New) The method for preventing corrosion of metal in an operating steam generating unit according to Claim 5, wherein the quaternary ammonium compound is ( $\beta$ -hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide.

16. (New) The method for preventing corrosion of metal in an atmospheric distillation column for petroleum refining process according to Claim 8, wherein the quaternary ammonium compound is ( $\beta$ -hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide.